

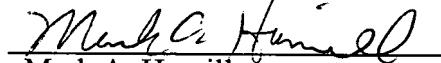
10/049756  
J.3 Reg'd PCT/PTO 12 FEB 2002

# BARNES & THORNBURG

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## PATENT

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No:	Not yet Assigned	}	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
Filed:	02/06/02		Mailing Label No. <u>EL833590531US</u>
<i>Group Art Unit:</i>	<i>Not Yet Assigned</i>	}	I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office Box Addressee" Service under 35 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
<i>Examiner:</i>	<i>To Be Determined</i>		
Invention:	CORE PIN AND SLEEVE AND METHOD OF USING SAME	}	 Mark A. Hamill
Applicant:	Starkey		
Attorney Docket:	26814/93146	}	Dated: <u>February 12, 2002</u>

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's duty of candor under 37 CFR §1.56 and in compliance with 37 CFR §1.98, Applicant is not aware of any material prior art but, in an abundance of caution and candor, Applicant submits the present Information Disclosure Statement along with the information listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the listed references is included herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement and the enclosures constitute a bona fide attempt to comply with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed along with the U.S. National Patent Application based on PCT Application PCT/US01/19744 and therefore no fee is required.

The person making this Statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information in the attorney's file and as provided by Applicant and his representatives.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR §1.97(g)) or as an admission that the information cited herein is or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b)(37 CFR §1.97(h)).

Respectfully submitted,

**BARNES & THORNBURG**

Mark A. Hamill

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MAH/amt  
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